

WO 2005/082410

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Claims

1. Use of a CD81 binding agent for manufacturing a medicament for inhibiting or reducing transmigration of cells, such as leukocytes or tumor cells.
- 5 2. Use according to claim 1, wherein said CD81 binding agent is selected from the group consisting of CD81-binding polyclonal, monoclonal, chimeric, humanized, and fully human antibodies; CD81-binding Fab, F(ab')₂, single chain Fv or other antibody fragments, CD81-binding CDRs or other CD81-binding peptides, aptamers and small molecules.
- 10 3. Use according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said leukocytes are T lymphocytes or monocytes.
- 15 4. Use according to any one of claims 1-3, wherein said medicament is for use in the treatment or prevention of (tissue damage caused by) an inflammatory disorder associated with leukocyte transmigration.
5. Use according to claim 4, wherein said disorder is selected from the group consisting of multiple sclerosis, stroke, spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, meningitis, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, AIDS
- 20 dementia, atherosclerosis, diabetes, inflammatory bowel disease (including Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis), ischemia-reperfusion injury (including ischemic stroke and myocard infarction), rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, psoriasis, complications of tissue or organ transplantation including graft-versus-host and host-versus-graft disease.
- 25 6. Use according to any one of claims 1-3, wherein said medicament is for use in the treatment or prevention of tumor metastasis associated with transmigration of tumor cells.
7. A method for inhibiting or reducing transmigration of cells such as leukocytes or tumor cells comprising contacting said cells with a CD81 binding agent.
- 30 8. A method according to claim 7, wherein said leukocytes are T lymphocytes or monocytes.
9. A method according to any one of claims 7-8, wherein an effective amount of said CD81 binding agent is administered to a mammal suffering from, or being at risk of developing, (tissue damage caused by) an inflammatory disorder associated with leukocyte transmigration.
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10. A method according to claim 9, wherein said disorder is selected from the group consisting of multiple sclerosis, stroke, spinal cord injury, traumatic brain injury, meningitis, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, AIDS dementia, atherosclerosis, diabetes, inflammatory bowel disease (including Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis), ischemia-reperfusion injury (including ischemic stroke and myocard infarction), rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, psoriasis, complications of tissue or organ transplantation including graft-versus-host and host-versus-graft disease.
- 10 11. A method according to any one of claims 7-8, wherein an effective amount of said CD81 binding agent is administered to a mammal suffering from, or being at risk of developing, tumor metastasis associated with transmigration of tumor cells.

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